

## Minutes

### Millbury Council on Aging Board of Directors

Date: April 20, 2022 at 7:35am

Present: Stephen Walinsky, Richard Townsend, Stuart Mulhane, Kevin Higginbottom, Sarahbeth Persiani, Kendra Faldetta (Acting Director), and Sean Hendricks (Town Manager)

Vouchers: None presented

Minutes: Amended Minutes for the January Meeting, as well as the minutes for the March meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

Correspondence: A packet of invoices from the Friends of the Millbury Seniors was presented to the Chairman. All invoices included related to expenses of the Transportation Program provided for the benefit of Seniors and other residents of the Town. The total amount requested by the Friends was \$ 19,468.51. Per an understanding with the Town Manager during budget discussions, the Manager would prefer to reimburse the Friends for such expenses rather than reimburse them for gasoline. No other correspondence was presented.

#### Standing Reports:

- A. Budget and Finance: Mr. Walinsky reported that he was unable to obtain the monthly reports from the finance director, as the office was closed and his call was not returned. The Manager reported that the Finance Director was on medical leave of absence at the time of the attempt to obtain the reports. He did say that e-mail inquiries could be made, and that the assistant could respond in the future.
- B. Personnel: It was reported that a new part time clerk had been hired.
- C. Nominating: No report
- D. Legislative: No report
- E. Senior Center Usage: No requests received for usage of the facilities.
- F. Building Maintenance/ Equipment: Ms. Faldetta reported that the National Honor Society was willing to perform the garden maintenance tasks and do spring cleanup.

#### Directors Report:

Ms. Faldetta provided a written report which included an activity summary for January, February and proposed for March as well as the statistics for program attendance. Copies of these documents are attached to these minutes.

#### Old Business:

A. Elder Services of Worcester Area, Inc./ Nutrition Program Ms. Faldetta informed the Board that she learned of correspondence from ESWA to the Friends instructing the Friends to

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cease the practice of giving Meals on Wheels Drivers gift cards as rewards for their volunteered services. Since that issue did not involve the COA Board, no action was needed to be taken.

B. Intergenerational Programs and Friendly Visitor – High School Honors Students are being recruited to assist Seniors with computer and smart phone technology issues. Friendly Visitor program still continues on a remote basis.

C. The Elder Community Service Program still continues. In a separate discussion with the Town Manager he announced that the requested amount of funding for the 2023 fiscal year budget is being reduced to \$10,000, the reason being that there is still a significant carryover available from previously approved budgets.

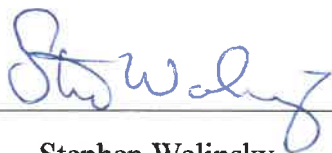
D. There were no representatives from the Friends in attendance, but a question had arisen regarding the responsibility for arranging escorts for disabled seniors using the Transportation Program. Ms Faldetta responded that the Friends Transportation should do that. The Chairman disagreed in that as long as the Senior Center Staff is receiving and recording requests for Transportation appointments, the inquiry should be made as to whether or not the client needs extra assistance. The Outreach and Friendly Visitor staff person should be able to assist in providing for that need. This issue needs to be resolved .

There was no New Business.

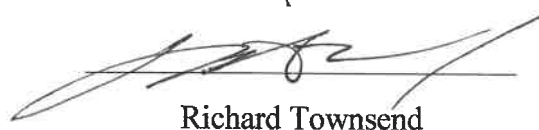
The Board was polled and agreed to move to Executive Session to discuss the future strategies and participation by the Board. That occurred at 8:45 AM. After a brief recess, the Board convened in Executive Session at 9:00 and adjourned at 10:15.

The regular meeting reconvened immediately. No further business to be discussed, the regular meeting adjourned at 10:20AM

Next Board Meeting: March 16th 2022, at 7:30am.



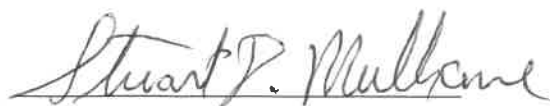
Stephen Walinsky



Richard Townsend



Kevin Higginbottom



Stuart Mulhane

Sarahbeth Persiani

## **Acting Director's Correspondence**

### **March:**

On March 1<sup>st</sup> we had a Mardi Gras celebration that included King Cake from Helen's Bakery and candy prizes for the two people with the lucky coin in their cake slice.

On March 2<sup>nd</sup> we arranged to have Ann Dallair, the town's librarian, promote some library programming during lunch and assist anyone without a library card in getting a library card.

On March 3<sup>rd</sup> I taught a St. Paddy's Day Wreath making class that was attended by 28 people. Pictures can be found on our Facebook page.

On March 8<sup>th</sup> we had a representative from Senator Moore's office visiting with people at the senior center.

On March 17<sup>th</sup> we had our St. Paddy's Day lunch that included 43 people. We also had our first floral arranging class with Berg Floral Boutique; we had 48 people for the class and had very positive feedback.

On March 22<sup>nd</sup> we had our monthly memory café, that hosted 18 people and included an ice cream bar and crafts.

### **April:**

On April 13<sup>th</sup> we hosted RSVP volunteers to do a Fraud Prevention program that involved skits to help seniors better understand the scams they may come across.

On April 14<sup>th</sup> we had two Millbury High School NHS students have a Senior Field day and Brookdale Eddy Pond sponsored a sundae bar for those that attended.

On April 19<sup>th</sup> we decided to close for one week due to an increase of COVID specifically in the senior center. We will be deep cleaning and wearing masks amongst the office staff until the public health officials tell us it is no longer required.

### **Future:**

April 26<sup>th</sup> will be a memory café outdoors if the weather allows and will include acoustic live music.

On May 10<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the library we will be hosting Howie Newman's music for senior citizens.

Cindy Johnson has been working with Fox Tours and we are offering a trip to Narraganset in June; the bus for this trip is nearly full.

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